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September 17, 2012

Sean Sheldrake
Project Coordinator
U.S. EPA, Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, M/S ECL-111
Seattle, Washington 98101

Re: August 2012 Monthly Progress Report
Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Removal Action
U.S. EPA Region 10 Docket No. CERCLA 10-2009-0255
Gasco Sediments Site within the Portland Harbor Superfund Site

Project Number: 000029-02.28

Dear Mr. Sheldrake:

This monthly progress report provides information required by Section VIII, Paragraph 26, of the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Removal Action (Order) for actions taken in August 2012 at the Gasco Sediments Site within the Portland Harbor Superfund Site.

1. ACTIONS TAKEN IN THIS MONTH AND PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

The following actions and correspondences occurred in this month:

- **August 7** – Anchor QEA submitted NW Natural's response to EPA's comments on NW Natural's July 24, 2012 proposal to complete additional visual monitoring at the Gasco Sediments Site to support design-level evaluations.
- **August 9** – NW Natural received EPA's letter directing the additional visual monitoring area to include the U.S. Moorings dock area downstream of the Gasco/U.S. Moorings property line.

- **August 10** – Anchor QEA submitted a response letter to EPA’s August 9, 2012 letter directing enlargement of the visual monitoring area to include the U.S. Moorings dock area. The response letter stated NW Natural agrees to implement the directed work due to time constraints for completion of the monitoring but has strong technical and legal concerns with this direction and would like to discuss them with EPA in the context of the Draft Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) comments.
- **August 14** – Anchor QEA coordinated access with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to the EPA-directed additional visual monitoring area adjacent to the U.S. Moorings site and notified EPA that this access was obtained.
- **August 15** – Anchor QEA submitted the Gasco Sediments Site monthly progress report to EPA and conducted the first round of additional visual monitoring at the Gasco Sediments Site.
- **August 20** – Anchor QEA completed the monthly visual monitoring of the shoreline area in the direct vicinity of the pilot cap.
- **August 23** – Anchor QEA notified EPA that the first round of additional visual monitoring was performed on August 15 and the second round of monitoring was scheduled for August 28.
- **August 28** – Anchor QEA conducted the second round of additional visual monitoring at the Gasco Sediments Site.

2. RESULTS OF SAMPLING, TESTS, AND OTHER DATA RECEIVED

The results of the monthly visual monitoring of the shoreline area in the direct vicinity of the pilot cap are provided as Attachment A.

3. SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT MONTH

Anchor QEA anticipates the following activities to occur in the next month:

- Submittal of the September monthly progress report.
- Completion of monthly visual monitoring of the shoreline area in the direct vicinity of the pilot cap area.
- Completion of the third round of additional visual monitoring at the Gasco Sediments Site.

- Receipt of EPA's comments on the Draft EE/CA.

4. ANTICIPATED PROBLEMS AND PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

No problems or unforeseen conditions were encountered.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Ryan Barth, P.E.
Assistant Project Manager



Carl Stivers, Partner
Project Manager

Attachments:

Attachment A Monthly Visual Monitoring Report for Pilot Cap Vicinity

Cc:

Bob Wyatt, NW Natural

Patty Dost, Pearl Legal Group PC

Tom McCue, Siltronic Corporation

Alan Gladstone and Hanne Eastwood, Davis Rothwell Earle and Xochihua

James Peale, Maul Foster Alongi, Inc.

Lance Peterson and Jeanette Mullin, CDM Smith

Matt McClincy, DEQ

Dana Bayuk, DEQ



Visual Observations Log Form

Date August 20, 2012 **Project Number:** 000029-02 BG-28 Task 4a

Location: NW Natural "Gasco" Site

Project Name: NW Natural – Gasco

Monitoring Period: Monthly (Year 6)—August 2012

Time Observations Started: August 20, 2012 @ 15:00 **Time Observation Concluded:** August 20, 2012 @ 16:00

Weather Conditions: Clear, 78° Fahrenheit, winds from the northwest at approximately 5-10 knots

Wave Action Observations: Light wave action (0.2 – 0.4 feet in height)

Photographs Taken: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Tidal Conditions: Willamette River level on 8/20/2012 ranged in elevation from 3.44 to 6.73 feet. The Willamette River level during photos was approximately 3.70 feet measured at 15:30 (River Level Elevation Datum: Morrison Gage Height).

Observations of Erosion/Deposition: No erosion/deposition is evident along the shoreline. Four organoclay mat material segments are exposed and visible. One 20-foot section of organoclay mat is visible at the upriver extent of the cap area (Photo 1). Two segments measuring 4-foot and 2-foot in width are exposed approximately 5-7 feet from the water's edge near the lateral mid-point of the cap area. One 40-foot section of organoclay mat material is exposed near the downriver extent of the cap area.

Observations of Long-term Controls (i.e., oil booms, organo-clay mat, etc.) During the observation, the Fuel and Marine Marketing (FAMM) containment boom was in place across the cap area, between the upriver corner of the ship dock and the wooden dolphin (near the upriver extent of the site and near the Siltronic Corporation outfall). Buoys that identify the cap area to mariners are in place as installed. The position of the FAMM oil boom, warning buoys, and a general overview of the site shoreline is shown in Photo 2.

Other Comments: No sheen is evident in or around the cap area. Photo 3 shows the water surface and shoreline immediately downriver of the sediment cap.

Recorded by: **Douglas Laffoon**

Photo 1- *Exposed section of organo-clay mat at the upriver extent of the sediment cap (8/20/12):*



Photo 2 - *FAMM oil boom shown and mariner warning buoys in place across pilot cap area. (8/20/12):*



Photo 3 — *Conditions immediately downriver of cap area (8/20/12):*

